

IRS News Release

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IRS Offers Continuing Education Credits for Certified Financial Planners at Nationwide Tax Forums

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WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service announced that it has reached an agreement with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards to give continuing education credits at the IRS Nationwide Tax Forums held this summer. This is the first year that the IRS has registered as a continuing education sponsor for certified financial planners. The IRS is already a continuing education sponsor for enrolled agents and certified public accountants.

Twenty-four of the 36 seminars at each tax forum are eligible for the credits for certified financial planners. Approved seminars cover tax law changes, retirement plans, health care credits and ethics, among other topics.

The Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards creates and enforces uniform standards of competency, practice and ethics for financial planners. The board provides certification for financial planners who meet experience and education requirements, pass a certification exam and adhere to a code of ethics and professional responsibility. Certificate holders must complete at least 30 hours of continuing education every two years to maintain their certification.

The IRS Nationwide Tax Forums will be held in six cities over the summer of 2006:

- June 27-29 — Anaheim, Calif.,
- July 11-13 — Chicago, Ill.,
- July 25-27 — Atlanta, Ga.,
- Aug. 1-3 — Orlando, Fla.,
- Aug. 22-24 — Las Vegas, Nev., and
- Aug. 29-31 — New York, N.Y.

This will be the 16th year the forums have been a component of IRS communication and outreach efforts.

The three-day forums offer the latest word from the IRS on tax law, compliance and ethics, as well as the opportunity to interact with IRS executives and specialists. Attendees can also consult with software vendors and tax service providers and meet with representatives of numerous professional organizations.

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In a survey of last year's attendees, 98 percent were satisfied with the Nationwide Tax Forums. Attendees have also said that as a result of their participation they are able to respond to their clients' needs in a more professional manner and can offer more technical expertise.

For more information on the forums, including descriptions of seminars and a list of the seminars eligible for continuing education credits for certified financial planners, go to www.taxforuminfo.com or to the Tax Professionals page on the IRS's Web site at IRS.gov.

Financial planners who want to know more about the continuing education credits can visit the Board of Standard's Web site at www.CFP.net.